

The Crime of the Cities—Boston

By FRED C. GREEN

STATISTICS compiled by Federal officials in charge of prosecuting prohibition violations in Boston indicate that eighty-five per cent of such offenders are not native-born Americans. Of the foreign groups Jews and Italians predominate, with Jews ahead of all others.

These statistics apply not only to Massachusetts but to Rhode Island and Connecticut as well.

More Jews are arrested for "bootlegging"—peddling liquor by the pint or quart from suit cases, rag-bags, and so on, than people of any other nationality; where enforcement officers raid places in which stills of magnitude are being operated it is generally a Jew who is either in actual charge of the plant or is back of it. Plots that have come to light which involve large shipments of contraband from across the Canadian border are, in the majority of cases, backed by Jews.

This applies to the smuggling of whisky and other liquors in freight cars, where the bottles or cases are camouflaged in sacks of potatoes, bales of hay, bales of rags or other merchandise. Recently two entire freight cars, filled with liquor that was billed as scrap leather and wool waste, were shipped from Montreal and seized in this vicinity. Two Jews, members of a Montreal firm, were arrested in Boston for their alleged part in this smuggling.

The Volstead Act provides only a fine for first offenses. Such a fine is regarded as a part of the overhead expense of carrying on an exceedingly lucrative business. The only thing that frightens such offenders is the possibility of a prison sentence, and in many cases they get around this by giving a fictitious name if they are arrested a second time.

These foreigners are not of the "second generation" variety. The majority of them have been in this country seven or eight years. Many of them come from countries where graft and bribery are prevalent and these, as soon as they come under the ban of the law, attempt to bribe the representatives of the government.

Although prohibition enforcement has thrown an enormous load on the Federal courts the work of prosecuting such cases has not been blocked and there is no confusion, unless it is the slight amount due to the necessary duplication of work under the present system.

The United States commissioner, whose office corresponds to that of a lower court judge, has no power to impose a penalty. He hears evidence in preliminary hearings and if he does not find the offender guiltless may order him held to await the action of the Federal grand jury or else to go before the United States district court.

In either of the last two findings it is necessary to submit the evidence a second time, thus making two bites of a cherry. Unless conspiracy is involved, first-time prohibition offenses are misdemeanors. There is a movement now on foot to give added power to the commissioners in order to enable the Federal lower court to dispose of as many such cases as possible.

For second offences jail terms may be imposed. In Boston, at present, the prosecutors are going through their files, sorting out a list of the worst offenders, to whom heavy fines or jail sentences are to be meted out, in an effort to set a warning example.

The prosecution here is directed by Herbert A. Horgan, who has been made a special assistant to the Attorney-General. He was formerly legal advisor to Prohibition Enforcement Agent McCarthy. Special assistant United States district attorneys are also to be appointed. During the war Mr. Horgan was connected with the Army Intelligence Department as the head of a bureau at Washington to investigate disloyalty among foreign-born citizens. This work gave him an unusually good insight into the foreign mind and he has an interesting suggestion as to how prohibition violations among our foreign element may be cut down.

He believes that if the foreign-language press of the country would take the matter up and propound to its readers, in their native tongue, just what the law means and what violations of it may incur in the way of penalties, including the loss of citizenship if the second papers have not been taken out at the time the offense is committed, it would do much good. This idea could be carried out, also, from the pulpits of the foreign churches and through other media that would reach those who do not read American newspapers.

"Bootlegging" on a small scale and the operation of small stills are found to a greater degree in our industrial centers where foreign colonies are established.

But the big "rum-running" projects, operated by organized gangs and in a systematic way, through chains of cities and towns from the source of supply to the distributing point, are backed by large capital and in the majority of cases Jewish brains are responsible.

The writer was shown the file in the office of the prosecuting officials and the cards therein bear out the statement as to who leads in violating the law.



MISS BERTHA MAY GRAF

Before the National Woman's Party dissolved at its recent convention in Washington, an unofficial vote was taken by the delegates as to the prettiest girl worker among them. Miss Bertha May Graf, of the Suffrage Headquarters, won. In recognition of her beauty, Miss Graf acted as flower girl at the convention. This is her latest photograph.

The Builders

By FRANK DORRANCE HOPLEY

THERE is a fable of a man who thought to build himself a castle that should stand as a monument to his memory forever.

He builded one whose corner stone was riches. It was inlaid with gems and had a golden cornice, which glittered in the sun. "This castle will stand forever," said the man, but the winds of misfortune blew upon the four corners, and it fell.

Then the man builded again—this time upon power. He thought himself invincible with his bulwarked towers and strong embattlements. But there arose a mightier than he, who assailed the castle from all sides, and it too fell.

For the third time the man builded, and the foundation was fame. His sayings and deeds were heralded throughout the land, and he raised the structure to the plaudits of the multitude. But the people were fickle and before a year had passed they had followed after another, and the third castle began to crumble.

Again the man would have builded a castle, but the times were hard, and there were many poor and desolate in the land who needed assistance. So the man put aside his ambitions to raise a monument with his name upon it, and gave of his abundance, and helped to make life less hard and wearisome for many people, in consequence of which he could not build, this time, a castle, but had to be content to erect a modest house upon the hillside. There he lived through all the storms of life, and the house still stands, a monument to the man, because it was built on sacrifice and love.

There are many persons today who are like the man in the fable. Some believe that wealth is all in the world that counts. Others there are whose god is power. And those who chase the will-o-the-wisp of fame are oft-times doomed to disappointment. The multitude that applauds them today will, tomorrow, applaud others with equal acclaim. The goddess of fame is a fickle jade and will not stay won for long.

But the man who builds upon the corner stone of love and sacrifice for his fellow men, who thinks of the happiness of others before his own, is certain that his name will be remembered and revered after he has passed away, and many will rise up to call him blessed.

Warren Harding, the Man

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only thing is to minimize their seriousness or bitterness. As for will, those who have seen, as I have, Mr. Harding in the attitude of having made up his mind cannot doubt that he has an inexhaustible amount. It is implied will, however, and as such not likely to provoke clashes.

To describe him in a few words, the President is a man after one's own heart. That goes for the men as well as the women.

Reports are already current in Washington as to what the Harding White House-ship will mean. Reference has been frequent to the manner of the Roosevelts, who left many an aching social heart because beneath the so-called "bully" policy there existed an inner circle, a sort of sacred sanctum achievable only by those of unquestionable aristocracy; the Tafts were annoyed by petty enmities incurred during their Cabinet days; and the Wilsons, of course, observed a policy of their own making, but in which resident Washington has never figured. The Hardings may be depended upon to set up their own standard, a medium between exclusive and popular—a clearing house of current thought, a meeting place for the "best minds," as the President calls them, be they masculine or feminine.

At the time of writing the first rumbles of dissatisfaction were heard at Washington that President Harding was not going to be hasty in putting Republicans into office. In this regard his intentions have once more been misconstrued by machine politicians. The fact is that he stands committed to a thorough house cleaning, and his criticism of overstuffed and extravagant government departments were keen enough, but on the other hand he is too good a business man to disturb the business of running the government—for he is going to regard it as a business, just as printing the *Marion Star* is—by unnecessarily turning out incumbents before capable successors have been selected.

There is no denying that the government departments and routine work on March 4, 1921, were thoroughly disorganized and erratic, despite a few feeble attempts at political somersaults by a few Democrats who think they can conceal their politics (not their lack of ability) long enough to be permitted to retain their work. Their disappointment is going to be great.

President Harding believes in the proverbial new broom, but likewise is not forgetful that a new broom is inclined to be rough and roughness does some damage.

I quote from an interview I had with him in the spring of 1916—the first interview of national scope ever sought of him.

"We want a real and righteous Americanism abroad, and we need a newly consecrated Americanism at home. That's why I am a Republican. We must have a slogan of prosperity and we should make America prosper first."

"The war has given us a fictitious, sectional prosperity, but it does not blind us to the depression likely to follow, nor to the industrial reconstruction which must be worked out after peace is restored."

The man who could foresee this situation five years before it oppressed the United States is logically the man to restore normalcy.

The Thirtieth President?

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"Maybe not," the other replied sharply, "but it won't empty it!"

It doesn't matter much if one doesn't hear Calvin Coolidge speak; one may understand him just the same, and if he wants to reach you with his mind he will find a way. He is an excellent writer and his compositions reveal a literary quality that is rare in official papers. And he himself believes that the people do not want to hear words.

He ought to know by now. He has been seventeen times a candidate, I believe, and each time has won the race for office.

Vice President Marshall, also a taciturn man, but of different character, occasionally entertained the Senate and the country too with some humorous quip, even at the risk of becoming unpopular, as was the case when he compared the Senate to a balloon, but wit from the Chair will be awaited in vain—unless Vice President Coolidge, president of the Senate, should change his mind.

That is unthinkable, at least now, because it does not come within the province of progressive government, which is his one hobby by way of life work. Even though witticisms from the Chair might help to relieve occasionally monotonous proceedings in the august Chamber it is quite likely that he will expect Senators to provide their own wit and he will provide, if need be—as to this I cannot commit myself—the laughter.

One thing is sure—that he will be as stern a presiding officer as his predecessor.

Vice President Marshall, a few days before leaving office, had this to say:

"Is it not possible for the occupants of the galleries to obey the rules of the Senate? You are not all strangers. I see you here frequently. It imposes a burden upon the presiding officer that you ought not to put upon his shoulders all the time to call you to order. You have no right, under the rules of the Senate, to manifest your approval or disapproval. As good American citizens, will you not be kind enough to obey the law of the Senate as well as every other law of the Republic?"

This is a typical reproach, couched in the most convincing and pleasing terms, but I can imagine Vice President Coolidge uttering the same sentiment and order if not the same words—and from him it will seem just a little more forbidding.

But I can also see, in my mind's eye, Vice President Coolidge at home, embracing his two sons, John and Calvin, while mentally chuckling over absurd rules that require the Senate to provide its own applause.